

# ONE WOMAN'S DEBT OF Gratitude TO GRANT.

By Jessie

Benton Fremont.

Whenever there was anything I wanted done, I went to him directly, and never had to wait. I was always shown to the private entrance and passed through, and would almost always have a little chat after my business was transacted. I once went to ask him for a change of orders for a young officer who did not want to sail under the captain of the ship he was appointed to. The Secretary of the Navy was away, and as soon as General Grant understood that the Admiral was not averse to the change, and that the officers who would be his mess-mates on the other vessel were very anxious for him, he arranged the matter and kept me waiting until I could take the new orders with me, and, as he said, "Put the young fellow out of his pain."

On meeting him another time he said: "I understand your son wants to go to West Point. I want to offer him an appointment-at-large by myself, in recognition of his father's distinguished and meritorious service."

We had not wished Frank to go, but the offer was made in such a courtly manner that it was impossible to refuse, and Frank was one of the West Point boys who came down to parade at the second inaugural celebration. It was about the coldest day ever known in Washington, and many suffered acutely. Frank caught double pneumonia, and was still so ill, after leaving the hospital, that the President, seeing him at West Point, sent him home, wiring me: "Your son is hereby granted thirty days leave at my orders." As even this was not sufficient, he was finally allowed, at General Grant's request, to go "beyond seas" in search of health, still retaining his connection with the army. He eventually recovered entirely, and to the great personal friendship I had for General Grant I have always added a mother's gratitude for his saving the life of my son.

JESSIE BENTON FREMONT.

## Apartment Houses for Women.

Miss Janet C. Lewis, who has made a life study of the question of apartment houses for business women, finds the cause of the various failures in the fact that, as a rule, the homes are not practical, are not managed on a common-sense, business basis.

Her remedy is as follows:

"In the first place, all apartment houses or lodging houses for working women should be made self-supporting, and I believe that if properly managed they can be not only self-supporting, but profitable as a business investment.

"This is my scheme: I would select a plot of land 100 by 100 feet, centrally located and costing about 200,000. The building would be ten stories high, the first story laid off in a large assembly room and club rooms, to be leased or rented as means of revenue, the basement to be fitted up for Turkish and Russian baths on the club principle to insure proper patronage.

"The eight stories above the ground floor would be planned out in a series of small apartments. Suites or parlor, four bedrooms and bath, with housekeeping privileges, would average about \$40 per month, according to location.

"Now suppose four girls were to club together and take one of these \$40 suites. It would cost them less than \$2.50 each a week, with the added advantage of parlor and private bath. Single rooms would range in price from \$12 to \$16 a month, with both privileges.

"All the apartments would be heated by steam and lighted by electricity without extra charge. A part of the top floor would be reserved for studios

I KNEW General Grant so well and my recollections of him are so extensive that it is very difficult to condense them. He was eminently sincere. He had a perfect atmosphere of truth about him. You could not help liking his manner, his appearance and that bulldog tenacity that he exhibited more and more as he grew older. He never liked an ill-natured remark, but anything amusing pleased him greatly. He was charming in his personal life at home; neither he nor his family was ever in the least spoiled by their prominence.

General Fremont gave to General Grant the first important command he had, that at Cairo, and I met him about that time. Later, in Washington, during his first term, we really became friends, and at parties he used to call me to his side, saying he liked to hear what I had to say to people. I always called him "General," and he liked it. On one occasion a young lady came in and I said: "General, that woman fairly prances. She makes me think of a common horse with a check. She isn't spirited, but she'd like to create that impression." The General was so amused that he was still laughing when she reached him, and when she insisted on knowing the reason I had to come to his rescue and turn it off.

When she had passed he said: "My great difficulty is never to know what to say." I said: "You have no need to; you do the things that make everybody else speak of you and for you." "Now, that's the kind of thing I like you to say," said he, and he did not realize until everybody laughed that he was endangering his reputation for modesty. He was wonderfully interested in young people.

He used to say: "I like young people to have what they want. It is better for them in their lives if they have pleasant influences around them." It pained him to have young people's feelings hurt, and if possible he always avoided it.



"The joyful day when our soldiers came marching home."

and the rest given up to the restaurant. Special arrangements could be made for meals by the week or month.

"The bill of fare would not be elaborate, but good, nutritious and reasonable. Suppose, for example, a woman living in the vicinity of the house wished to take all her meals; she could afford to pay \$5 per week, which, added to the \$2.50, would make her weekly expenses \$7.50, so that a woman getting a salary of \$10 a week could live and dress comfortably.

"The roof would be fitted up for a roof garden, with canopies, easy chairs, hammocks and growing plants, and free to the occupants of the house.

"There would be no rules, no regulations or restrictions of any description—every woman a free and independent citizen with a latch key.

"One more important feature. There would be a chambermaid on each floor. The single rooms would be kept in order free of charge, and the apartment for a small fee.

"Such an apartment house could be erected at a maximum cost of \$700,000, and pay the stockholders from 6 to 8 per cent on every dollar invested.

"The same plan could be carried out on a cheaper basis for an apartment house for poorer girls. The entire cost of living could be brought down to about \$4.50 a week and the building still pay a profit.

## The Woman's Bible in England.

THE Woman's Bible has just reached England. The English magazines are paying a great deal of not too polite attention to it just now. The Gentilewoman of last week says:

"It is a lamentable fact that immediately woman commences to approach the object of her intellectual ambitions, and the opposite sex begins to hold out the hand of amity and support, there comes from her motley ranks some fresh outburst of absurd frenzy that makes her stanchest masculine adherents gasp and draw back. In wonderment and dismay they ask themselves if the fair creatures are indeed fitted to hold positions side by side with them, to take upon themselves responsibilities and risks other than they now have. The last thing that comes to awaken alarm and regret, both in the breasts of men and of well-regulated intellectual women, is the announcement that a new edition of the Scriptures is to be given to the world, a bowdlerized or maimed edition, which has for its object the demonstration of the so-called oppression of woman from ancient times.

"Its endeavor is to point out that man is entirely responsible for the persecution and subjugation of woman, for the formation of laws to her detriment, and for all the thousand and one disabilities from which she suffers. It is more ill-timed or ill-considered than the use of the Bible for this misguided purpose. Many persons, from a sacred point of view, object to the use of the Divine Book for the floating of purely personal and erroneous convictions, and many more, from quite a secular standpoint, are horrified at the perverse use made of a historical record for ends we, in charity, will merely call silly. Plays, novels and tracts based upon sacred lore have become fashionable, and though the taste which prompts their origin has been often discussed, nothing seriously pernicious can be urged against them; but in the new venture, the smouldering fire of the anti-man movement is ignorantly, if not innocently fanned, and views absolutely paralyzing to the progressive woman are propounded.

"So many persons ignore the fact that despite the increased intellectual development of woman, she structurally and physiologically remains the same; and poor outcriers of the 'New' school spend their time in tilting mentally against an evil which is caused by Nature and not by man. Neither the Bible laws, the power of the priesthood, nor the mere egoism of uncivilized man must be blamed for the position they occupy. Whenever woman wastes her energies in this absurd warfare, she may be considered to have slipped down several rungs of the ladder she has so successfully mounted.

"The increase of insanity, of serious nervous disorders, of morphinomania and intemperance may in part be attributed to the perverted education of a certain set of dissatisfied women—women who endeavor to deceive themselves into the belief that the intellectual side of the temperament is alone worthy of culture. This unhappy class, commonly styled 'New,' is fortunately far removed from the intelligent girls who seek education at the university, or other means of either artistically or scientifically earning a livelihood which shall render them independent of the necessity of loveless marriage. With the 'New' woman we have one who has not got beyond the dangerous stage of superficial knowledge, who jumps at wrong deductions, or starts from impossible premises.

"All her erudition is valueless till she begins with the common acceptance of the inequality of the sexes, and the difference between the wear-resisting value of the stronger over the checkered destiny of the weaker vessel. The brass jug and the china one will hold an equal amount, and will equally serve all necessities, but the odds are against the porcelain for durability, and so in the economy of civilization the metal jug will always carry the day. No theological discussions, nor absurd diatribes, can argue away this homely fact, either now or in the end of time."



"And now its peace for ever, at least I hope so, in my orchard home."